



ALBANY.

RAPID TRANSIT SCHEMES.
A COMMISSION PROPOSED—THE "TRAVELING" SIDEWALK.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]
ALBANY, Feb. 3.—Mr. Eastman will introduce to-morrow in the Assembly a bill designed to bring about some practical result from the various schemes for a rapid transit in New-York. It provides for the appointment of five Commissioners, two by the Governor, two by the Mayor, and one by the City Judges, and one by the Mayor, whose duty it shall be to examine all the plans for quick transit yet invented, and decide upon the best one. The Mayor is authorized to offer \$50,000 reward for the plan that shall be adopted by the Commission. The Commissioners shall then locate the route of the road, and determine whether the city shall assist in its construction, and if so, to what extent, provided private capitalists cannot be found to build it. No existing charter shall be interfered with unless the Commission decides that there is no prospect of the road being built by the company owning the charter, in which case it may take possession of the route of any company now organized.

Assemblyman Healy introduced to-day a bill to authorize the construction of the quick transit railroad, known as "Spec's Traveling Sidewalk." A similar bill passed the Legislature last year, but was vetoed, and the present bill has been framed to meet the objections made by Gov. Dix and Mayor Haverty. It provides that the inventor shall be allowed to test his plan somewhere in the city limits by permission of the Common Council, and if it proves to be practicable he shall, with the same permission, be allowed to build the road on the route specified in the bill. Another bill for a horse railroad through Forty-second-st. was introduced in the Assembly, making about a dozen now pending in the two houses for a road through this street.

TWO DISPUTED ELECTION CASES.
THE MADDEN-ABBOTT CASE ADJOURNED AGAIN—MR. SULLIVAN ADMITTED TO A SEAT IN THE ASSEMBLY.

[FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]
ALBANY, Feb. 3.—Contested seat cases occupied the attention of both houses to-day, to the exclusion of most other business. The case of Madden against Abbott for the right to the seat from the 13th Senatorial District came up as a special order in the Senate, when Mr. Bradley, the Democratic member of the Committee on Privileges and Elections and the author of the minority report, made an elaborate argument in support of the view taken in his report. The main point of the argument was to the propriety of the action of the majority of the Committee in awarding the seat to Mr. Madden without a full investigation of all the facts pertaining to the election in that district. He contended that the Committee should have ascertained who was actually elected before reporting in favor of ousting Mr. Abbott from his seat on a partial statement of the facts. He likened the action of the majority of the Committee to that of a judge who, in a suit on a promissory note, refused to hear testimony to prove that the note is a forgery, but gives judgment for the plaintiff on the *prima facie* evidence that the note is genuine.

Mr. Parmenter (Dem.) followed in support of the position taken by Mr. Bradley, and cited authorities to show that the action of the majority of the Committee was against all precedent, except in a single instance, and in that case there was no pretense as in this, that the returns were forged.

The speeches of Senators Bradley and Parmenter occupied nearly the whole session, and, on motion of Mr. Woodin, the further discussion was postponed to to-morrow. The test vote last week indicated beyond a doubt that the majority report will be sustained and Mr. Madden will get the seat, and the discussion apparently has no other object than to make a little political capital for the minority and to furnish the majority an opportunity to repel the attacks made upon them by showing that the Democrats always do the same thing when they have a chance. It is a well known fact that contested seat cases almost invariably decide in favor of the claimant whose political sympathies are with the majority; which only shows the necessity of a law for the settlement of such cases before the courts prior to the meeting of the Legislature.

In the Assembly, the case of James H. Sullivan, recently elected to fill the seat of Henry W. Genet of the 21st District of New-York, was brought up on a motion by Mr. Blumenthal that Mr. Sullivan be allowed to take his seat on the floor, he having taken the oath of office before the Secretary of State. Mr. Blumenthal moved as an amendment that the credentials be referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. He said there were grave doubts as to the legality of the special election called by the Governor to fill this seat. Waiving the question as to whether Genet had been convicted of an "infamous crime" in the eye of the law, he made the point that at the time the Governor issued his proclamation for a new election (in December) Genet was not a member, but the "incumbent" of the office at that time was Mr. Cray, the last year's member from that district. Mr. Genet could not take office until the 6th of January, the date of the meeting of the Legislature, and any call for a special election prior to that time was illegal, because there was no vacancy.

Mr. Alvord took issue with Mr. Blumenthal on this point, and read the statute specially authorizing the Governor to call a special election whenever a vacancy occurred in a district after the general election, and prior to the meeting of the Legislature. Mr. Blumenthal questioned the constitutionality of this law. The discussion finally ended by the unanimous adoption of Mr. Blumenthal's motion to allow Mr. Sullivan to take his seat, and the subsequent adoption of a resolution offered by Mr. Spencer referring Sullivan's credentials to the Committee on Privileges and Elections to investigate the question and report as to the legality of the special election.

CURRENT TOPICS AT THE STATE CAPITAL.
THE COMPOSITION OF THE ASSEMBLY—CURRENT LEGISLATION—ALBANY NOTES.

ALBANY, Feb. 3.—Statistics compiled by the Librarian show that there are in the present Assembly 24 farmers, 24 lawyers, 10 merchants, 11 manufacturers, 5 physicians, one undertaker, one butcher, one dentist, one editor, and one gentleman. The editor is Mr. Coughlin of New-York, and the "gentleman" is Mr. Alberger of Buffalo. The natives of the members are: New-York, 100; Ireland, 6; Germany, Prussia, and Bavaria, 6; England, 2; Holland, 1; Massachusetts, 2; Vermont, 2; New-Hampshire, 2; Connecticut, 1; Maine, 1; Maryland, 1; and New-Jersey, 1. The average age of members is about 40 years, the eldest members being Edmund Miller of Cheung, who is 65, and the youngest Hamilton Fish of Putnam, who is 34. The tallest and heaviest man in the House is Seth C. Pope of St. Lawrence, who is 6 feet 4 inches in height, and weighs 340 pounds. Mr. West of Saratoga and two or three other members are 5 feet 8 inches, and the lightest weight is Stephen B. Hammond of Ontario, who balances 120 pounds. The married men number 106, the bachelors 26, and widowers 8.

A bill for the reorganization of the Civil Justice Courts of New-York, introduced by Assemblyman Spencer to-day, provides for the election in the Fall of 1876 (the time when the terms of the present Justices expire) of five Civil Justices for the city, to be chosen on a general ticket. In order to give the minority a representation, the bill provides that no elector shall vote for more than three candidates. The bill reduces the number of Justices from nine to five, requires them to sit permanently, and allows them \$6,000 per annum salary.

An important bill was also introduced by Assemblyman Oakley for a reduction of the rates of wharves in New-York and Brooklyn. It provides that vessels of 50

tons shall pay one cent per ton for each day they may lie at a wharf, and vessels of a larger tonnage shall pay one-quarter of a cent per ton for each ton in excess of 50, except canal boats and barges, which shall pay the same as heretofore. Lighters carrying sails shall pay half the rates charged to the first class. Vessels are to be charged one-half rates while lying at wharves and not receiving or unloading cargoes, but no vessel shall pay less than five cents per day. Owners of wharves are allowed to collect five cents per ton for each day goods are left standing on the wharves over twenty-four hours. The bill is asked for by the Chamber of Commerce and by the shipping interests of New-York generally.

Assemblyman Davis has introduced a *pro rata* freight bill applicable to all the railroads of the State, requiring each road on the 1st of March of each year to publish its rates of freight for the entire year, which shall not be altered. It also limits the passenger fare on every road to two cents a mile, and prohibits the issuing of free passes to any public official.

The Assembly Committee on Cities decided this afternoon to report back the bill repealing the act of last year for the erection of a city prison. Col. Spencer has withdrawn his opposition to the repeal, and is going to introduce an entirely new bill to provide for the erection of a prison.

Mr. Robertson has presented a petition in the Senate, signed by Patrick E. Dunn, President of the Unemployed Workmen's Union, and John Brophy, Secretary, on behalf of 200 unemployed workmen, asking for the prompt passage of Mr. Coughlin's bill, which has just passed in the Assembly, to give all power over the public works in New-York to Geo. W. Van Nostrand, "who is a practical workman."

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Nearly all the members of both houses, the State officers, the Judges of the Court of Appeals, and the Governor's staff, attended Gov. Dix's reception to-night.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

THE MADDEN-ABBOTT CONTESTED ELECTION CASE—GENET'S SUCCESSOR ADMITTED TO A SEAT—NEW BILLS INTRODUCED.

SENATE.—ALBANY, Feb. 3, 1874.
After the reading of the journal the Madden-Abbott contested seat case came up for consideration. Mr. Bradley said the question involved the rights of the people in their representation, and the integrity of the Senate. Mr. Madden claimed to have been elected by 22 majority. One of the certificates, the second of Forestburgh, was proved to be a forgery. Mr. Abbott offered to prove that he was entitled to retain his seat, but the majority of the Committee would not allow it. It is proposed to put Mr. Madden in the seat of the Senator from the 13th District on a forged certificate, and not on the return of the Inspectors. Mr. Abbott thinks ready to resign, and Mr. Bradley said that he was elected from the 13th District. It has never been held in Congress that a man should be seated until an investigation was had and the question decided by evidence. Mr. Parmenter said it was an important question, and the Senate had no right to trample under foot the rights of any of these immediately interested. The Committee was directed to inquire who had the right to the seat, and it was not proper for a majority of that Committee to report in favor of giving the contested seat to Mr. Madden, thus removing Mr. Abbott, who now occupies it and allowing him (Mr. Abbott) to contest it. On motion of Mr. Woodin, the further consideration of the question was postponed until evening.

Relative to the publication of election notices in the several counties of the State except New-York. This bill leaves the selection to the Board of Supervisors of each county.

Allowing corporations to change their names.

THE SENATE MET AT 2:30 P. M., when Mr. KELLGROVE moved to adjourn. Mr. WOODIN asked to be excused from voting, for the purpose of saying that many Senators desire to go to the State of New-York, and that the brief hour would hardly allow a fair discussion of the question before the Senate. Personally he should be ready to vote, but he would not do so until the session if the majority so desired. The motion was lost by 7 yeas to 11 nays. Mr. COLE moved to make the question of the contested seat a special order for to-morrow morning, which was carried by 9 yeas to 8 nays. Mr. JOHNSON said the point of order that it required a two-thirds vote to make any business a special order. Mr. WOODIN submitted that it was a privileged question, and therefore did not require a two-thirds vote. It affected the organization of the Senate. He moved for the question to be taken. Mr. COLE moved to adjourn until to-morrow morning. Immediately after the reading of the journal. The motion was carried and the Senate adjourned.

ASSEMBLY.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL rose to a question of privilege, saying that Mr. Sullivan, who was recently elected to a seat in the House from the 21st District of New-York, was present, and having been duly sworn in at the Secretary of State's office, he moved that he be allowed to take his seat.

Mr. BATELLER objected, in order to establish a precedent concerning the duties of all the members here. There was an objection to the call for this election, which was made before there was a conviction of an infamous crime. At the time the Governor issued his proclamation for a new election (in December) Genet was not a member, but the "incumbent" of the office at that time was Mr. Cray, the last year's member from that district. Mr. Genet could not take office until the 6th of January, the date of the meeting of the Legislature, and any call for a special election prior to that time was illegal, because there was no vacancy.

Mr. ALVORD took issue with Mr. Bateiller on this point, and read the statute specially authorizing the Governor to call a special election whenever a vacancy occurred in a district after the general election, and prior to the meeting of the Legislature. Mr. Blumenthal questioned the constitutionality of this law. The discussion finally ended by the unanimous adoption of Mr. Blumenthal's motion to allow Mr. Sullivan to take his seat, and the subsequent adoption of a resolution offered by Mr. Spencer referring Sullivan's credentials to the Committee on Privileges and Elections to investigate the question and report as to the legality of the special election.

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this question settled. As to the claim of Mr. Haw, if the Committee on Privileges and Elections find that he was elected to the seat, then all the claims of the Governor fall of effect or force.

Mr. WOODIN said it best to have this whole case acted upon in the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

Mr. ALVORD urged that it be referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

Mr. BATELLER, at some length, argued that Mr. Sullivan was elected according to the statute, and the statute was constitutional. He therefore moved that the right of the House to sit in judgment on the action of the Governor, to learn whether he had violated the statute and the Constitution, be denied, and that the House do not sit in judgment on the action of the Governor.

Mr. ALVORD moved that the House do not sit in judgment on the action of the Governor.

Mr. BATELLER presented a communication from the Controller of the State, asking for the return of the County Treasurers' arrears to the State, and what proceedings should be taken to recover them.

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WASHINGTON.

THE SANBORN CONTRACTS.

TREASURY OFFICIALS ANXIOUS THAT THEY SHALL NOT BE PUBLISHED—REMARKABLE DEVELOPMENTS—THE CONTRACTORS AND THEIR CREDIT MOULDER EXPOSURES.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—The Ways and Means Committee to-day considered the request from officials in the Treasury not to insist upon the publishing of the Sanborn contracts. Assistant Secretary Sawyer is quite in earnest in having the resolutions modified. The Committee are considerably at loss fully to understand the unusual anxiety manifested to withhold these documents. It was decided, however, that as a resolution of inquiry had been passed and reconsidered, and the motion to reconsider laid on the table, it was beyond the power of the House, except by unanimous consent, to change it. That unanimous consent could not be obtained was quite apparent, and members of the Committee felt that after so much public attention has been called to the matter, they could not properly recommend any modification.

Several of the reasons for the desire on the part of some to keep the contracts from the public, have been ascertained by the Committee. The form of making these contracts required the insertion of the names of the persons and corporations that it was proposed to proceed against, and the accompanying papers which are really part of what was sent for, contain details that will cause much annoyance and embarrassment to several of the persons interested.

It appears that many of the sums collected by these contractors and sub-contractors, for half the amount, should have been collected by the regular machinery of the Internal Revenue service, at the expense of its regular officers only. The charge upon which certain legal proceedings have been based is that in many cases, through collusion with Revenue officials, taxes which the latter could easily have collected were turned over to these contractors who could realize 50 per cent on the amount, and then afford to make quite a liberal settlement.

Another feature of the case is, that persons shown by the investigation last Winter to have been stockholders in the Credit Mobilier, were immediately approached by these contractors and confronted with their former income returns, and with evidence from the books of the Company, as produced before the Committee here, that they had received large dividends. They were then asked to pay the deficiency in their income returns, together with the legal penalties. This branch of the subject is reported as forming one of the strongest reasons for preventing the publication of these contracts.

It is further said that as soon as the railroad from Danville, Va., to Greensboro, N. C., which united the States, had been treated as property of the Confederate Government, was claimed by a private company, these contractors immediately demanded the payment of taxes. The question seems to be settled, however, at last, and against the Treasury Department, and so the documents must soon make their appearance.

THE ARMY BILL.

THE DEBATE IN THE HOUSE—THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE SUSTAINED IN THEIR EFFORT TO REDUCE THE RANK AND FILE OF THE ARMY.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—The Army bill was the regular order in the House to-day, and after Mr. Beck had made a speech in favor of opposing the National debt in greenbacks, which sounded like an echo from the Democratic platform of five or six years ago, there was a little discussion of the military establishment and the necessity of maintaining it at its present strength. The pending question was on reducing the appropriation for recruiting so as to let the force of enlisted men drop down to 25,000, by not enlisting enough during the coming year to keep it up to the maximum standing of 30,000. Some interesting facts were stated by Mr. Guineck relative to the cost of the British army, from which it appears that the British soldier is maintained for less than one-half the cost of the American soldier, and is better housed, better clothed, and better fed, although not so well paid.

Mr. Wheeler, who had the bill in answer to complaints of Western and Texas members, that more troops were needed to defend the Indian frontier, said that if such were the case the War Department had better go to the fine houses of officials in Washington and take out the private soldiers who were acting as servants, put uniforms on them and send them to the frontier. This statement, thrown out with a good deal of force and significance, created a sensation. Mr. Wheeler was asked how many soldiers were thus detailed as servants, but he replied that he had no facilities for learning that which other members did not possess. Mr. Potter supplied the information wanted, by saying that he was informed that there were over 1,000 enlisted men in Washington, leaving the inference that their duties were not of a military character. The Military Committee, which has a commendable fondness for finding out things, will doubtless be stimulated by Mr. Wheeler's and Mr. Potter's statements to investigate the matter.

Mr. Garfield argued in favor of the proposed reduction of 5,000 men, saying that there were now 6,000 soldiers east of the Mississippi, of whom 1,224 were around New-York Harbor, and 1,000 on the Canada border, while there was not a single British soldier on the other side of the frontier.

The result of the debate was that the Appropriations Committee were sustained in their effort to reduce the rank and file of the army, and the method by which they proposed to effect it was made more direct and positive by an amendment prohibiting the expenditure of any money for recruiting beyond the number of 25,000 men.

LAND LITIGATION IN PENNSYLVANIA.

WILKESBARRE, Feb. 3.—A special term of the Court of Common Pleas of this county began yesterday before Judge Harding, to hear the five election cases of Derringer against Cox, in which is involved the title to coal lands and other property in Sugar Loaf Black Creek township worth \$2,000,000. The land in question was taken up in 1793 by warrant and survey by Terch Cox for his timber lands, and it was not known to be coal land until many years after. Having failed to pay taxation in 1818-19, the land was sold from the County Treasurer, and was purchased by the County Commissioners. The county held it for six years, and in 1820 it was bought at Commissioners' sale by B. Derringer. After his death in 1826, the heirs of the Cox estate claimed title to the land, alleging that Derringer had not paid taxes on it for 1823-25, and that he had bought it at the County Treasurer's sale in 1818 and entered upon the land and began improvements, and hence the title by the heirs of B. Derringer. The plaintiffs are represented by ex-Chief Justice Woodward, Judge Linn of Williamsport (who was engaged in place of ex-Judge Woodward of this city, and Clarence Derringer of Philadelphia. The defense is conducted by A. T. McClintock. The case is now in dispute, and it is expected that it will be decided as to ownership separately.

THE NEW-ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

BOSTON, Feb. 3.—The New-England Agricultural Society held its annual meeting in Boston to-day, and selected its officers, as follows:

President, Geo. H. Loring of Salem; Secretary, Daniel Needham of Groton; Treasurer, George W. Riddle of Manchester, N. H.

The number of trustees from each of the New-England States was increased from 9 to 11. By the report of the Treasurer, it appears that the last annual fair, held at Mystic Park, involved a loss of nearly \$5,000. The president said that the object of the Society was to have its fairs held in all of the States of New-England, and it is expected to hold the next fair in Maine, at Bangor, in the hands of Judge Cox, and the place for the next exhibition, and a committee was appointed to correspond with the Maine and other societies on this subject.

STATISTICS OF COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION.

Monthly Report No. 3 of the Bureau of Statistics contains the statistics of our foreign trade for the month ended September, 1873, and for the nine months ended the same, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1872. The total value of foreign commodities remaining in the warehouses of the United States Sept. 30, 1873, was \$28,608,404, against \$27,788,675, Sept. 30, 1872. Allowing for the difference in warehouse, the imports are in excess of the domestic and foreign exports combined, for the nine months ended Sept. 30, 1873, to the amount of \$1,841,979, as compared with \$10,000,000 for the corresponding period of 1872. Of the total

trade by water during the nine months ended Sept. 30, 1873, over 71 per cent was carried in foreign vessels, as compared with 71 per cent for the corresponding period of 1872. The report contains comparative tables showing the value of the total imports from, and of the total exports to, the various foreign countries for each of the nine years from 1864 to 1872. It also contains the usual quarterly statements of immigration, products of the American fisheries, forests, agriculture and manufactures, and a collection of miscellaneous statistical information.

THE SANTILLAN LAND GRANT.

The House Committee on the Judiciary to-day heard the argument of Wm. Hirst of Philadelphia, in behalf of the San Francisco Land Association, in the case of the Santillan land grant, which the U. S. Supreme Court declared void, by which decision the United States claimed to be the owner of the lands, and vested them in the City of San Francisco. Since the decision, it is claimed, the book of records has been discovered displaying the charge of fraudulent title. The memorialists pray that a grant of public lands may be made to them, equal in value to Government prices, to the lands in question. The Santillan grant covered 100,000 acres of land within its line a large part of the City of San Francisco and its suburbs, and is represented in the brief as being worth "scores of millions of dollars." According to the memorial the only question to be decided is whether the Association have an equitable claim for lands in place of those acquired by the Santillan grant, and affecting the latter as to its present ownership and occupancy.

THE EQUALIZATION OF BOUNTIES.

When a Congressman can make no other bill for popularity he introduces a bill to equalize the bounties of soldiers during the war. A number of these measures have been presented this session, and the Senate Military Committee has gravely pondered upon one, as it was intended to be passed to-day. Years ago, it used to be the practice of the House to pass such a bill every year for political effect, and to rely upon the Senate to kill it. Perhaps the Senators think that "turn about is fair play," and that the numerous Presidential candidates in that body ought to have a chance now to make a little "capital" out of this transient humbug. To equalize bounties would mean that the Government should pay the same bounty to all soldiers who were in the service during the war, and there is in pretensions of an intention to pass any bill for the purpose.

AN ENJOYABLE BIT OF SATIRE.

A bill authorizing the removal of a National bank from Hagerstown, Md., to Washington, D. C., was reported last week, and was sharply attacked at the time by Mr. Merriman on the ground that banking capital and other personal property were exempt from taxation in the District. To-day, Mr. Phelps made a speech in reply, that was so thoroughly enjoyable a piece of satire that even the gentleman whom it hit had to join in the general good humor created. The speech was remarkably effective, for it changed completely the temper of the House toward the bill and secured its passage by a large majority. After this District Government had been vigorously attacked and defended over its shoulders for an hour or so.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Feb. 3, 1874.
Major Howell, who has for some time had charge of the improvement at the mouth of the Mississippi River, has made his report to Gen. Sypher regarding the St. Philip Ship Canal. His report has been submitted to a board of seven army engineers, who have returned it with a favorable endorsement. The plan which requires jettes at the natural mouths of the river is not approved. The report shows that the canal furnishes a perspective view of the Mississippi, and enables commerce to avoid tow-barge exactions. The report which will be adopted regarding the St. Philip Canal is the majority report, and is in favor of six of the seven jettes, from the mouth of the river to the Gulf of Mexico. Major Howell estimates the cost at \$7,000,000, but the Board, to cover all contingencies, places it at \$10,000,000.

THE TEMPERANCE CRUDE.

SUPPRESSING THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC BY FRAYER IN SOUTHERN OHIO—A TEST CASE IN THE COURTS.
[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]
COLUMBUS, Ohio, Feb. 3.—The Temperance movement begun by the ladies at some points in Southern Ohio has been steadily spreading with varied success. At most places the results attained have been highly beneficial, and the opposition has given way before the prayers and endurance of the ladies. An occasional instance of resistance is, however, reported. Advice from Louisville to-night as to the effect that said resistance has had in the Court of Common Pleas there, brought by Martin Barry, saloon-keeper, a resolute opponent of the crusade, against about 75 ladies of New-Holland, who had besieged his place of business and besought him to abandon his traffic. He has engaged eminent counsel, and proposes to prosecute them for interfering with his business. This will probably be made a test case, and be watched with interest. A growing hostility to the movement has been manifested among the saloon-keepers, and this case is evidently the result of combined action on their part.

THE CIVIL WAR IN SPAIN.

THE CARLISTS ABOUT TO BEGIN THE BOMBARDMENT OF BILBAO.
MADRID, Tuesday, Feb. 3, 1874.
The Carlists threaten to open the bombardment of Bilbao to-day. The city has two months' provisions. Gen. Moriones is receiving reinforcements and will advance to the relief.

RUSSIA AND THE AMERICAN EXHIBITION.

HER REFUSAL TO SEND GOODS TO THE EXHIBITION.
LONDON, Tuesday, Feb. 3, 1874.
A special dispatch to The Daily News from St. Petersburg says that Russia has refused to send goods to the exhibition to be held in Philadelphia in 1876, alleging that it is a private undertaking.

FOREIGN NOTES.

The iron-clad *Armapiles* arrived at Havana on Monday. (The majority of the Havana merchants are doing business on a gold basis.)

The new steamer *Britannia* of the White Star line was successfully launched yesterday morning at Belfast.

The public opinion of Havana struck yesterday morning against the proprietors. Mounted police patrolled the streets, and ordered the men to return to work under penalty of being arrested and forced into military service. The strike ended. The troubles with the cigar-makers continue. A few only of the largest manufacturers are running, with a small number of hands.

The mail steamer from Rio Janeiro Jan. 8 has arrived at Lisbon, bringing the following news: The cholera had appeared in Buenos Ayres. The insurance in Entre Rios was not entirely ended. Some bands still held out in the interior. The French military monetary system, with 10 kilograms as the unit, had been adopted in Brazil. Coffee was quoted, according to this standard, at 80 kilograms per sack.

At Montreal the Rosenbaum extradition case was continued yesterday, when the evidence of Mrs. Allen, Assistant District-Attorney of New-York, was finished. Objection was taken to copies of the depositions taken in New-York as evidence in the case, and the point was reserved by Judge Kane until this morning. If the decision is in favor of the prosecution the case will be closed; otherwise it will be necessary to bring witnesses from New-York.

On the suggestion of the German Chancellor the Council of State is considering a proposal for establishing a central meteorological bureau for all Germany, with the special design of making the empire independent of that of the Observatoire National of Paris, on the "Balken" of which its scientific men have hitherto labored.

It is in contemplation not merely to observe but to publish by means of the telegraph regular interchange of observations between Germany and America, but to use these especially for the study of the passage of storms across the Atlantic, as well as between Ireland and the Baltic, the subject being one on which the *Bulletin International* of the Paris Observatory, added to the records of Great Britain, have of late shown remarkable light.

ATTEMPT TO SHOOT AN EDITOR.
SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 2.—B. F. Naphthaly, editor of the Sun was released this afternoon on bail, and while waiting along California-st. was met by Augustus DeYoung, of The Chronicle, who, drawing a pistol, fired four or five shots at him, but without effect. DeYoung was overpowered, disarmed, and taken to jail. Naphthaly, who also went there for protection, was not in the prison by Michael DeYoung, who drew a revolver and tried to shoot him, but was prevented by the guard. All